

unteers, August 16, 1861. He served until the fall of Petersburg and Richmond, April 2, 1865. He was then captured and imprisoned at Johnson's Island until July of the same year. Col. Brown was in the battles of Port Royal Ferry, Gaines' Mill, Second Manassas, Harpers Ferry, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House (the "bloody angle"), Noel's Station, and the battles around Petersburg, receiving seven wounds at Gaines' Mill and Gettysburg. For his gallantry he was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel of the 14th Regiment, February 20, 1863, and the latter part of the same year he was made Colonel, and at times as senior Colonel, commanding M. Gowan's brigade, when the General was disabled by wounds.

Col. Brown was President of the National Bank of Anderson for the nineteen years of its existence. He has taken but little interest in politics, but served in the State Legislature 1886-87.

He has been very successful in business and still practices law taking in only a limited amount of business for employment. He has been a member of the Baptist church for 45 years, and for 25 years has been a deacon.

GEORGE E. PRINCE, ESQ.



No man stands higher at the bar anywhere in South Carolina to-day than Hon. George E. Prince, of the firm of Tribble & Prince. His career since entering the legal arena has been more successful than the lot that falls to most men, and he has established a name for himself throughout the entire State.

Mr. Prince was born near Antreville, in Abbeville county, January 24, 1835. In 1869 his father moved to Williamston, where the son received his primary education and was prepared for Wofford College. Mr. Prince entered Wofford in the fall of 1872, and graduated in June, 1876. The class with whom he graduated was one of the largest that ever left that institution. Mr. Prince was unanimously elected valedictorian of the class over all his competitors, and his oration at the commencement exercise was said to have been one of the finest ever heard on the Wofford rostrum.

After leaving college he taught school for four years, after which he began to study the law. He was admitted in December, 1881, but did not begin to practice regularly until August, 1882. At the law Mr. Prince has made a fine record, and what he has accomplished has been by his own hard work and close attention to his duties. He has served for a number of years as city attorney, but at last had to give up that position on account of his heavy law business. At both the criminal and civil business he has had a large practice, and in nearly every instance he has been successful.

Mr. Prince has been called on frequently to enter the political field, but he has declined. However, he entered the race for the Constitutional Convention from Anderson county and came out almost at the head of the ticket. In the convention he was considered one of the brainiest young members in that body, and made many hard fights for his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Prince is chairman of the board of trustees of the Anderson Graded schools, and it was mainly through his instrumentality that the schools were organized. He is also a trustee of Wofford College.

The firm of Tribble & Prince is known far and near, and to-day enjoy a very large practice, not only in this but in other counties in this section of the State. Mr. Prince has a branch office at Wallhalla, with Mr. J. R. Earle, the firm being Prince & Earle.

Personally, Mr. Prince is a man who has the knack of making many warm and influential friends among all classes, and he is held very high in esteem by all his friends and acquaintances. He has always used his influence to uphold Anderson, and believes that she is the foremost city in the entire State.

J. L. TRIBBLE, ESQ.



Mr. J. L. Tribble, of the firm of Tribble & Prince, is one of the strongest lawyers in South Carolina. By hard study he has mastered all the details of that profession, and has won quite a reputation in this as well as in other counties of this State. The firm of Tribble & Prince has long enjoyed an extensive business, and they have been very successful in this line.

Mr. Tribble was born in Abbeville county. His boyhood days were spent on a farm until 1870, when he went to Greenville and entered the Greenville High School under the management of Col. John B. Patrick. After one session he entered Furman University, where he remained for three months, and then taught a country school for about eight months. He made a great success at this, but at the close of the term he went to Richmond, Va., and entered the Richmond College. He spent two years at this institution, taking the law course during the latter and graduated at that institution in law. After completing his education Mr. Tribble came to South Carolina and settled at Anderson in the fall of 1874. In February of the following year he was admitted to the bar, and at once began at the practice of his profession.

Mr. Tribble was a member of the firm of Orr & Tribble, with Hon. James L. Orr until 1880, when the latter moved to Greenville. Mr. Tribble was then connected with the firm of Brown & Tribble, Col. Joseph N. Brown being the senior member. In August, 1888, Mr. Tribble was unanimously elected Mayor of Anderson and served for two years. During all this time he used his influence for the advancement of the city of Anderson and her people, and was one of the most popular officials in this city. He declined re-election, however, and devoted his attention wholly to the law.

In August, 1890, he formed a partnership with Hon. George E. Prince, and is still a member of that firm.

Mr. Tribble is one of the most public spirited citizens in Anderson, and has worked hard ever since he has been here to help her out in any way that he possibly could. He is identified with a number of home enterprises, and takes a deep interest in educational institutions.

J. F. RICE, ESQ.



Mr. J. F. Rice, of the Anderson bar, was born, reared and educated in Virginia, and is a South Carolinian by choice. He has a liberal education, being a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College, Virginia, and also of Washington and Lee University. After graduating at college he taught school for several years before taking his law course.

Mr. Rice came to South Carolina in the fall of 1891, and for two years was the principal of the Townville High School. He resigned this position and returned to Virginia to enter the law department of Washington and Lee University at Lexington. He received his degree of Bachelor of Law at that institution in June, 1894. The Hon. John Randolph Tucker is at the head of this department.

Mr. Rice, after graduating in law, decided to come to Anderson to settle. He had traveled in nearly all of the States east of the Mississippi River, but came to the conclusion that South Carolina was the best State and An-

derson the best county. Mr. Rice was struck with the progressiveness of the country, the manufacturing development of Anderson county, the fine climate and the hospitable and warm-hearted people of this county, and after considering them all decided that he would cast his lot in Anderson, where he has already made quite a reputation as a lawyer.

Mr. Rice settled in Anderson in September, 1895. He was admitted to the bar of this State, on motion of the Supreme Court, in November, and is a full fledged attorney in all the courts. The first case of any importance that Mr. Rice tackled was that of a negro charged with murder, and managed to save the man's neck by his effective argument. His friends predict that he will make a successful and astute lawyer, and he is perfectly able to do this with his head full of knowledge and experience. Anderson has extended to him the right hand of fellowship. Horace Greeley's advice to young men was to go west, but that has changed now and they come South. Mr. Rice saw this at a glance, and decided that Anderson was the best place on all the globe.

B. F. WHITNER, ESQ.



Major B. F. Whitner, a prominent member of the Anderson bar, was born and reared in Anderson county, where he has lived all of his life.

He graduated with distinction from the South Carolina College in 1855, and at once began to take up the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in December, 1857, and immediately entered into partnership with his uncle, Gen. James W. Harrison.

In 1860 Major Whitner was elected a member of the Legislature, and was an interested observer to the proceedings, which resulted in secession. He entered the military service in 1861, in the first troops enlisted by his State, joining the company that was commanded by his brother, but was soon called to the staff of Gen. M. L. Bouham. He afterwards entered the service on the coast of the State, where he remained until 1864, when he joined the army of Northern Virginia on the personal staff of General M. W. Gary. Here he remained until a month or two before the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, having participated with his command in the engagements in front of Richmond.

At the close of the war, and as soon as the courts were re-opened, he returned to South Carolina and resumed his practice. He has been very successful in his chosen avocation, and ranks as one of the ablest lawyers in the upper part of the State. His practice, though general in character, has turned largely on the equity side of the court, and as an equity lawyer he holds a foremost position in South Carolina. He took an active part in the Hampton campaign, in 1876, for the restoration of honest government in his State.

He was once a candidate for the State Senate, but was defeated by eleven votes out of a vote of about 3,500. He is a Democrat of long standing, and in 1880 was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention that nominated Hancock for President.

Major Whitner was a great mover in the stock law in South Carolina, and did much to have that law established. He took an active interest in the organization of the State Bar Association, and has held the position of President. He was one of the originators of the Savannah Valley Railroad, which for a long time he was general counsel.

Major Whitner still occupies the old family homestead, which was the place of his birth.

WILLIAM G. WATSON.

Mr. W. G. Watson, a prominent planter of Anderson county, was born six miles southwest of the city of Anderson, July 9, 1831. He was the son of David M. Watson, a native of Anderson county, having been born on the same plantation on which W. G. Watson was born.

Mr. Watson was reared on a farm in this county which has been his home all his life. He received a common school education. At sixteen years of age he was left in charge of his mother's farm, and attended it until the breaking out of the war. He entered the

service of the Confederate army in March 1861, in Orr's regiment, as a private, and served eighteen months, coming out with the rank of sergeant. Owing to impaired health, in the fall of 1862 he was compelled to return home. After spending two months at home recuperating he returned to the war and entered Trenholm's squadron cavalry command, with which he served eight months, when he was transferred to Virginia and placed in the Seventh South Carolina Regiment, under Col. A. C. Haskell, serving until the end of the war. Upon one occasion a ball struck the breech of his gun, glanced and killed his life leader in front. The concussion produced a large carbuncle, but aside from that he escaped unhurt. From the war Mr. Watson returned to Anderson and conducted the home farm for one year. In February, 1866, he was married to Miss Amanda E. Allen, of Abbeville county, a daughter of Charles P. Allen. After his marriage he located on another farm in the same neighborhood, engaging in the pursuit for himself. He has devoted his whole energy to that business ever since, and has made a brilliant success, being now one of the most thrifty and progressive farmers in South Carolina. He located on the farm he now occupies, about two miles from Anderson, in 1886. This farm, which he improved himself, is one of the most beautiful country places in Anderson county. Aside from farming, he is interested as a silent partner in the mercantile business, and is a partner in a store at Barnes Station.

Mr. Watson is a stockholder in the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, of Anderson, is a stockholder in the Cotton Mills, and a number of other paying home enterprises. He is a stockholder and trustee in the Patrick Military Institute and a stockholder in the Savannah Valley railroad.

Upon his land there is raised annually about 500 bales of cotton. He is a communicant of the Baptist church, a member of the Knights of Honor and the Sons of Temperance.

He and his wife have had six children, all living, four sons and two daughters.

HON. J. B. WATSON.



Hon. J. Belton Watson is numbered among the prominent men of this State. He was born in Anderson county in 1853, and is the eldest child of D. M. and Martha E. Watson.

When by hard work and a limited education a man climbs the difficult rings which lead to success and honor, winning the confidence of the people and being honored by them time after time, he deserves more credit and is more to be relied upon, perhaps, for sound judgment and strong executive ability than those born and nursed amidst affluence and elegant school advantages.

Mr. Watson was born and raised and has always lived on a farm. Until 1871 his school advantages were confined to the common country schools of his neighborhood. From 1871 to 1872 he had the advantage of one short term under Prof. W. J. Ligon, that noted educator of Anderson county, at Anderson C. H. In 1872 Mr. D. M. Watson, the father, died, which cut short the school training of the subject of this sketch. Belton Watson is full of energy, strong in his convictions, affable and pleasing in manners, and has won and fully merits success.

Since 1876 he has taken an active interest in the farmers' movement in this State; attended all the prominent meetings held by them; served on most of the prominent committees appointed by them, and in 1884 was elected as the head of the delegation to the State Legislature. He was defeated in 1886 by a small majority, but was re-elected in 1888 in the first primary held in the State, and again in 1890 and 1894. Although Mr. Watson entered the Legislature with comparatively no knowledge concerning the administration of public affairs, his sound judgment at once made for him a position in the front rank among his colleagues. His name is found recorded on nearly all of the important committees appointed by the House during his term of office, and he won for himself many friends and considerable distinction while chairman of the committee on Privileges and Elections. Many new

points and delicate questions arise in this committee, but with his characteristic fairness and firmness, Mr. Watson met and decided them and received the congratulations both of the distinguished counsel who appeared before the committee and gentleman of every faction all over the State for his promptness and fairness. Among the many positions held by Mr. Watson, he delights most to speak of his election and service as delegate from the Third South Carolina District to the Democratic National Convention, which placed Wm. J. Bryan in nomination for President of the United States, a position, he says, he desires above all things else to see him occupy. He is a model farmer, and is meeting with big success in that line.

HON. B. F. CRAYTON.



A "write up" of Anderson would be incomplete without due mention of her oldest living citizen, Hon. B. F. Crayton, a contemporary of Judge James L. Orr, Judge J. P. Reed, and other influential men, most of whom have passed away.

Mr. Crayton has for nearly sixty years lived in Anderson, and has been closely identified and prominently connected with the social, agricultural and political life of his town, his county and his State. Few men have contributed more to the progress and development of their section, nor has his influence and usefulness been merely local. It has been State-wide.

In the various public positions he has so creditably filled he has been thrown in intimate association with the leading men of the State, and has become widely and favorably known.

Mr. Crayton was born in Greenville, S. C., in July 1820, and is therefore in his seventy-seventh year. He attended school in Greenville, and, at the age of thirteen, entered Fairview Academy, in Greenville county, a high school conducted by Rev. John Boggs, who in his day was a noted teacher and prominent divine.

It was natural that, on leaving school, Mr. Crayton, descended as he is from a line of merchants, should choose a mercantile life.

In 1838 he came to Anderson as a clerk for his uncle, the late Rev. B. F. Mauldin, who was then a young man himself, and to whose good example and influence Mr. Crayton ascribes in a large degree his own moral habits. He retained this clerkship till 1841, and then succeeded to the business on Mr. Mauldin's removal to Calhoun, S. C. This business was continued till 1861, during the greater part of which time his brother, T. P. Crayton, was in partnership with him.

In 1845 the town was swept by fire. Mr. Crayton was absent from home, and on his return found his store burned, but most of his goods saved and placed in the jury room of the Court House for safe-keeping. By permission they were afterwards removed to the court room, which he used as a store room till his new store was erected. Rather than disturb him, Judge Johnson convened the court on the piazza of the Orr House, then kept by Capt. J. B. Benson. At the time of the fire, remarkable to say, the town had not one dollar of fire insurance.

After the war, gathering the fragments of a once handsome estate, Mr. Crayton again began business, associating with him his son, S. M. Crayton, and son-in-law, D. S. Maxwell. This business was continued until a few years ago, when Mr. Crayton withdrew and has since devoted himself to farming.

Mr. Crayton, during his business career, had a number of young men, of course, in his employ. Be it said to his credit, he took special and benevolent interest, not only in their business training, but in their social life as well, making a home for them in his own family, where they were treated as members of the household. And wherever these men are to-day—and some of them are occupying positions of influence and wealth—you will find them cherishing kindly and grateful feelings towards the friend of their youth.

From 1854 till 1872 Mr. Crayton did a private banking business in connection with his mercantile business. In 1872 the National Bank of Anderson was organized. Mr. Crayton was one of the corporation, and a direct or, till